

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 05033 211414Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 /061 W
-----011480 211422Z /53

R 211130Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8683
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PEPR, PK, AF
SUBJ: TARAKI MEETS AGAIN WITH PAKISTANI CELEBRITIES

1. RADIO AFGHANISTAN ANNOUNCED THE EVENING OF JUNE 20 THAT PRIME MINISTER NOOR MOHAMMAD TARAKI HAD MET THAT DAY WITH KHAN ABDUL GHAFFAR KHAN, "THE GREAT PUSHTUN PERSONAGE", AND WITH EXILED PAKISTANI LEFTIST AND PUSHTUNISTAN FIREBRAND, AJMAL KHATTAK. NO DETAILS WERE PROVIDED CONCERNING THE SUBSTANCE OF THE MEETING.

2. COMMENT: THE LAST PUBLICLY DISCLOSED MEETING BETWEEN TARAKI AND THESE TWO PAKISTAN PUSHTUN LUMINARIES WAS IN EARLY MAY AT THE HEIGHT OF THE REGIME'S CAMPAIGN TO DEMONSTRATE SUPPORT FOR THE APRIL 27 REVOLUTION FROM PUSHTUNS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE DURAND LINE. MEDIA TREATMENT OF THE ISSUE HAS ABATED TO SOME DEGREE IN THE PAST FEW DAYS. IN THIS REGARD, TARAKI DELIVERED A LENGTHY STATEMENT TO A GROUP OF CITIZENS ON JUNE 20 IN WHICH HE AVOIDED ANY REFERENCE TO PUSHTUNISTAN. HE DID, HOWEVER, ASSERT THAT "NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES" WHO HAVE EXPRESSED "CONCERN AND ANGUISH" OVER EVENTS IN AFGHANISTAN WOULD BE BETTER OFF IF THEY TENDED "TO THEIR
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OWN COUNTRIES" AND DID NOT "INTERFERE IN OUR INTERNAL AFFAIRS." THE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING YESTERDAY'S MEETING WITH GHAFFAR KHAN AND KHATTAK COULD REPRESENT A REMINDER THAT THE "QUESTION" HAS NOT BEEN FORGOTTEN, DESPITE RECENT SOFTPEDDLING BY THE AFGHAN LEADERSHIP.
AMSTUTZ

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: MEETINGS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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Litigation History:
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